



## Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

*Lee Holloway*  
Chairman of the Board

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### **CHAIRMAN HOLLOWAY ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS TO SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

*Federal government will not approve KRM line without dedicated funding for buses*

**Milwaukee, WI** – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway has announced his two appointments to the Wisconsin's Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SERTA), which was created in the 2009-2011 State Budget:

- County Supervisor Lee Holloway, Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
- County Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr., 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors; Chairman of the County Board's Transportation, Public Works & Transit Committee; and Chairman of the Long Range Transportation Planning Committee

Currently, the SERTA has jurisdiction over the proposed Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee (KRM) commuter rail link. Milwaukee County adopted policy states that the County's highest priority in reference to an RTA is the establishment of a dedicated source of funding for the existing rubber-tire bus system. Chairman Holloway believes solving the crisis facing our bus system, not rail projects, is the first step in preserving and expanding mass transit services in Milwaukee County and the entire region. That's why he created the Long Range Transportation Planning Committee, which held its first meeting today and aims to build off of Milwaukee County's existing experience in operating regional transit routes, which is an economic engine for the State of Wisconsin.

"To be clear, I am not opposed the KRM line. In fact, I support it. But supporters of the KRM must first fix the bus system, otherwise the KRM will never happen," Chairman Holloway said. "The Federal government is unlikely to approve any funds for the KRM without dedicated funding for buses. The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission believes it would be embarrassing for the feds to approve funding for shiny new trains when our bus system is crumbling. They just won't do it. It's clear that the Governor's veto of dedicated funding for mass transit in Milwaukee County is jeopardizing not only our bus system, but the KRM line as well."

Chairman Holloway is calling on the Governor and the State Legislature to develop a funding plan consistent with the referendum approved by Milwaukee County voters, which backed a one percent sales tax to reduce property taxes and provide dedicated funding for mass transit, parks, culture and emergency medical services.

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